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QUEBEC, CANADA, June 19, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended June 14 there were inspected at the port of Halifax, Nova Scotia, 205 immigrants; passed, 197; detained, 8.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER,  
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

*Origin of smallpox outbreak at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.*

QUEBEC, CANADA, June 19, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose a letter received from Dr. N. E. Mackay, quarantine officer at the port of Halifax, Nova Scotia. The letter is a reply to a report on the smallpox situation at Halifax, published in the PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS dated April 4, 1902.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER,  
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, June 16, 1902.

SIR: The facts in connection with the outbreak of smallpox in Dartmouth are as follows:

Mr. Walker, the man who took ill first with the disease, and who was supposed to have contracted it from the steamship *Dahome*, worked on the boiler of that vessel on February 18 and February 19, and on February 23 he took ill. Dr. Milson was called in for the first time on February 24, and the patient was out on February 27.

By this you will see that the man Walker took ill on the fifth day after he began to work on the vessel, which would allow of an incubation period of five days (if he had contracted the disease from the vessel), a thing unheard of.

I may further state that the steamship was thoroughly overhauled and refitted immediately after she was released from quarantine and none of the working men contracted smallpox, and further, she has made 2 trips to the West Indies and had a large passenger list each time, and none of them or any of the crew developed the disease.

Respectfully,

N. E. MACKAY,  
Quarantine Officer.

VICTOR G. HEISER,  
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

CHINA.

*Report from Hongkong—Plague and cholera.*

HONGKONG, CHINA, May 21, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the abstract of bills of health issued at this station during the week ended May 17, 1902. Seven vessels were disinfected, 476 individuals were bathed at the disinfecting station, and 579 bundles of clothing and bedding were disinfected by steam.

The cholera situation remains about the same, 39 cases and 36 deaths having been reported during the week. The cases were distributed among the various nationalities, as follows: Five Indians, 1 Portuguese, 1 Japanese, 1 German, and 31 Chinese. The total cholera cases and deaths thus far this year are, therefore, 254 and 227, respectively.

There was a slight increase in the number of cases and deaths due to bubonic plague, 31 cases and 34 deaths having been reported. All were

Chinese except 1, a sailor from the Japanese steamship *Kagashima Maru*. One case of smallpox was imported into the colony by the U. S. S. *Vicksburg*. One case of diphtheria and 1 case of enteric fever were also reported during the week.

A letter was received during the week from Dr. Anna K. Scott, of the American Baptist Mission at Swatow, stating that cholera has been epidemic at Swatow and surrounding villages, but that since the beginning of the rainy season there has been some improvement.

It was definitely determined during the week that the Sek Ke district has also been visited by an epidemic of cholera, and that for the past three months plague has been very severe. This district is about 40 miles northwest of Macao, on a tributary of the West River. Practically all the potatoes in the market come from this district during the early spring months.

Respectfully,

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

JOHN W. KERR,  
*Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

*Cholera at Tientsin.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
*Washington, D. C., June 14, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to advise you, for the information of the U. S. Marine-Hospital Service, that the Department is in receipt of a telegram from the consul at Tientsin, which reads as follows: "Cholera here."

Respectfully,

JOHN HAY,  
*Secretary of State.*

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

*Cholera increasing in Shanghai.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
*Washington, D. C., June 18, 1902.*

SIR: For the information of the U. S. Marine-Hospital Service, I have the honor to advise you that the Department is in receipt of a telegram from the consul-general of the United States at Shanghai, China, under date of the 17th instant which reads: "Cholera increasing here. About 30 foreign cases. Unknown, but large number natives dying daily."

Respectfully,

JOHN HAY,  
*Secretary of State.*

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

COLOMBIA.

*Weekly report of conditions and transactions at Bocas del Toro—Fruit port.*

BOCAS DEL TORO, COLOMBIA, *June 10, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the conditions and transactions at this port during the week ended June 9, 1902:

Population according to census, not obtainable. Number of cases and deaths from yellow fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from smallpox during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from typhus fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from cholera during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from plague during the week, none; number of deaths from